

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8, 12-13, 15-17, 19, 23-24, 26-28, 30, and 34-47 are presently active in this case. The present Amendment amends Claims 1-2, 6, 8, 12-13, 17, 19, 23-24, 26-28, and 30, and adds new Claims 34-47 without introducing any new matter; and cancels Claims 3, 7, 9-11, 14, 18, 20-22, 25, 29, and 31-33 without prejudice or disclaimer.

The outstanding Office Action rejected Claims 23-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8, 12-13, 15-17, 19, 23-24, 26-28, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Sugiyama (U.S. Patent No. 5,675,385, hereinafter "Sugiyama"). Claims 3, 7, 9-11, 14, 18, 20-22, 25, 29, and 31-33 were indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 and rewritten in independent form.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter. In response, independent Claim 1 is amended to recite all the features of Applicants' dependent Claim 3, to correct minor formal issues, and to add features related to the negatively-correlated weights with frequency power spectrums,¹ and error signals corresponding to short blocks.² Because the features find non-limiting support in Applicants' disclosure, no new matter has been added. Moreover, dependent Claims 2, 6, and 8 are amended to correct minor formalities, and to correspond to the changes of independent Claim 1. No new matter has been added. Dependent Claims 3, 7, and 9-11 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

¹ These features find non-limiting support in Applicants' disclosure as originally filed, for example in the specification starting at p. 28, l. 27, to p. 29, and in corresponding Fig. 3.

² Idem, p. 26, ll. 15-22.

Independent Claim 12 is amended analogously to the amendments of independent Claim 1, but in method claim language. In addition, dependent Claims 13, 17, and 19 are amendment analogously to the corresponding dependent device Claims 2, 6, and 8; and Claims 14, 18, and 20-22 are cancelled.

In response to the rejection of Claims 23-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, the preamble of Claims 23-24, 26-28 and 30 is amended to be directed to a computer readable recording medium, thereby being directed to statutory subject matter. These features find non-limiting support in Applicants' disclosure as originally filed, for example at p. 74, ll. 17-25, and in corresponding Fig. 12. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Moreover, Independent Claim 23 is amended analogously to the amendments of independent Claim 1, but directed to a computer readable recording medium. In addition, dependent Claims 24, 28, and 30 are amendment analogously to the corresponding dependent device Claims 2, 6, and 8; and Claims 25, 29, and 31-33 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Moreover, new Claims 34-47 are presented. New Claim 34 recites all the features of independent Claim 1 and allowable, dependent Claim 3, and further recites features related to the negatively-correlated weights with frequency power spectrums,³ and error signals corresponding to predetermined blocks.⁴ New Claim 37 recites all the features of Applicants' independent Claim 1, and allowable dependent Claim 3, as well as features related to the negatively-correlated weights with signal electric power values,⁵ and error signals corresponding to short blocks.⁶ New Claim 38 recites all the features of Applicants' independent Claim 1, and allowable dependent Claim 3, as well as features related to the

³ These features find non-limiting support in Applicants' disclosure as originally filed, for example in the specification starting at p. 28, l. 27, to p. 29, and in corresponding Fig. 3.

⁴ Idem, p. 67, l. 30, original Claims 9, 11.

⁵ Idem, p. 65, ll. 1-4.

⁶ Idem, p. 26, ll. 15-22.

negatively-correlated weights with signal electric power values,⁷ and error signals corresponding to predetermined blocks.⁸ New dependent Claims 35-36 depend upon new independent Claim 4, and recite features related to linear prediction and liner transformation, respectively. These features find non-limiting support in at least the original claims. New dependent Claims 39-41 depend upon independent Claim 34, and recite features of dependent Claims 2, 4, and 5 respectively. New dependent Claims 42-44 depend upon independent Claim 37, and recite features of dependent Claims 2, 4, and 5 respectively. New dependent Claims 45-47 depend upon independent Claim 38, and recite features of dependent Claims 2, 4, and 5 respectively. Therefore, the new claims are not believed to raise any issues on new matter.

Consequently, because all of the new independent claims include features of the allowable dependent claims, the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8, 12-13, 15-17, 19, 23-24, 26-28, 30, and 34-47 is earnestly solicited.

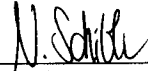
⁷ Idem, p. 65, ll. 1-4.

⁸ Idem, p. 67, l. 30, original Claims 9, 11.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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